Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _29 December 2003_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-15_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-15_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _29 December 2003_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

       1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

       2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

       3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _12/29/03 AND 04/15/04_.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1.   The IDS submitted on 12/29/2003 and the supplemental IDS submitted on

04/15/2004 have been acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2.   35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of
> matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the
> conditions and requirements of this title.

3.   Claims 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed

invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 12 and 13 are drawn to functional descriptive material NOT claimed as

residing on a computer readable medium. MPEP 2106.IV.B.1 (a) (Functional

Descriptive Material) states: "Data structures not claimed as embodied in a computer-

readable medium are descriptive material per se and are not statutory because they are

not capable of causing functional change in the computer."

"Such claimed data structures do not define any structural or functional

interrelationships between the data structure and other claimed aspects of the invention

which permit the data structure's functionality to be realized."

Claims 12 and 13, while defining a computer having a program, do not define a

"computer-readable medium" and is thus non-statutory for that reason. A computer

having a program can range from paper on which the program is written, to a program

simply contemplated and memorized by a person. The examiner suggests amending

the claim to state, "A computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program..."

in order to make the claim statutory.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 1-8 and 10-15 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Owa et al. (US Patent Number 6,348,971 B2) and in view of Aoki (US Patent

Number 6,631,008 B2).

(1) regarding claims 1 and 14:

As shown in figure 1-2, Owa et al. disclose an output device selection system (1;

figure 1) which communicably connects a plurality of output devices and selects one of

the plurality of output devices to produce output (5, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, figure 1; column 3,

lines 16-30; note that a host computer is connected with a plurality of printers via a

communication network), wherein:

a first output device from among the plurality of output devices comprises a

specialized output data receiving section for receiving specialized output data in an

output format which can be output by devices of the same type as the first output device (column 7, lines 12-17; note that print data gets transmitted to the selected optimum printer), and an output section for producing output based on the specialized output data received by the specialized output data receiving section (column 7, lines 17-22; note that based on the print data the optimum printer proceeds printing);

the output device selection system comprises an output device selection section for selecting a destination output device from among the plurality of output devices (column 7, lines 26-39; note that the selection section selects an appropriate printer based upon the print data), and an intermediate output data transfer section for transferring intermediate output data of the specialized output data to the output device selected by the output device selection section (column 7, lines 17-22; note that after the selection has been made the print data gets transmitted to the appropriate optimum printing device); and

a second output device other than the first output device from among the plurality of output devices comprises an intermediate output data receiving section for receiving the intermediate output data (column 7, lines 40-47; note that after the selection has been done based on the print data, the optimum printer PRN3 gets selected as it is considered as a second output device), and an output section for producing output based on the specialized output data produced by the inverse data conversion section (column 7, lines 44-47; note that printer PRN3 starts printing).

Owa et al. disclose all of the subject matter as described as above except for specifically teaching an inverse data conversion section for converting the intermediate

output data received by the intermediate output data receiving section into specialized output data in an output format which can be output by devices of the same type as the second output device.

However, Aoki discloses an inverse data conversion section for converting the intermediate output data received by the intermediate output data receiving section (column 13, lines 65-67; note that the received image data gets converted to printing data) into specialized output data in an output format which can be output by devices of the same type as the second output device (column 14, lines 2-3; note that the converted data gets printed by the printer device).

Owa et al. and Aoki are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skilled in the art to have an inverse data conversion section for converting the intermediate output data received by the intermediate output data receiving section into specialized output data in an output format which can be output by devices of the same type as the second output device. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to efficiently acquire a desired output and utilize different output devices (column 7, lines 12-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Owa et al. with Aoki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

(2) regarding claims 2 and 15:

Owa et al. further disclose, an output device selection system (1; figure 1) which communicably connects a plurality of output devices and selects one of the plurality of output devices to produce output (5, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, figure 1; column 3, lines 16-30; note that a host computer is connected with a plurality of printers via a communication network), wherein:

a first output device from among the plurality of output devices comprises a specialized output data receiving section for receiving specialized output data in an output format which can be output by devices of the same type as the first output device (column 7, lines 12-17; note that print data gets transmitted to the selected optimum printer), an output section for producing output based on the specialized output data received by the specialized output data receiving section (column 7, lines 17-22; note that based on the print data the optimum printer proceeds printing); and

a second output device other than the first output device from among the plurality of output devices comprises an intermediate output data receiving section for receiving the intermediate output data (column 7, lines 40-47; note that after the selection has been done based on the print data, the optimum printer PRN3 gets selected as it is considered as a second output device), and an output section for producing output based on the specialized output data produced by the inverse data conversion section (column 7, lines 44-47; note that printer PRN3 starts printing).

Owa et al. discloses all of the subject matter as described as above except for specifically teaching (I) a data conversion section for converting the specialized output data received by the specialized output data receiving section into intermediate output

data; (II) an output device selection section for selecting a destination output device

from among the plurality of output devices, and an intermediate output data transfer

section for transferring the intermediate output data produced by the data conversion

section to the output device selected by the output device selection section; and (III) an

inverse data conversion section for converting the intermediate output data received by

the intermediate output data receiving section into specialized output data in an output

format which can be output by devices of the same type as the second output device.

However, Aoki discloses (I) a data conversion section for converting the

specialized output data received by the specialized output data receiving section into

intermediate output data (column 12, lines 57-65; column 14, lines 40-46); (II) an output

device selection section for selecting a destination output device from among the

plurality of output devices (column 13, lines 42-53; note that printer 40c selects other

printer 40a-40b), and an intermediate output data transfer section for transferring the

intermediate output data produced by the data conversion section to the output device

selected by the output device selection section (column 13, lines 65-67; note that the

data gets converted to print data); and (III) an inverse data conversion section for

converting the intermediate output data received by the intermediate output data

receiving section (column 13, lines 65-67; note that the received image data gets

converted to printing data) into specialized output data in an output format which can be

output by devices of the same type as the second output device (column 14, lines 2-3;

note that the converted data gets printed by the printer device).

Owa et al. and Aoki are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skilled in the art to have (I) a data conversion section for converting the specialized output data received by the specialized output data receiving section into intermediate output data; (II) an output device selection section for selecting a destination output device from among the plurality of output devices, and an intermediate output data transfer section for transferring the intermediate output data produced by the data conversion section to the output device selected by the output device selection section; and (III) an inverse data conversion section for converting the intermediate output data received by the intermediate output data receiving section into specialized output data in an output format which can be output by devices of the same type as the second output device. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to efficiently acquire a desired output and utilize different output devices (column 7, lines 12-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Owa et al. with Aoki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 2.

(3) regarding claim 3:

Owa et al. further disclose a printer selection system (1, figure 1) which communicably connects a plurality of network printers and selects one of the plurality of network printers in response to a print request from a print request terminal (5, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, figure 1), wherein:

the network printer comprises a specialized print data receiving section for receiving specialized print data in a print format which can be printed by devices of the same type as the one network printer (column 7, lines 12-17; note that print data gets transmitted to the selected optimum printer), a network printer selection section for selecting a destination network printer from among the plurality of network printers (column 7, lines 17-22; note that based on the print data the optimum printer proceeds printing), an intermediate print data transfer section for transferring the intermediate print data produced by the data conversion section to the network printer selected by the network printer selection section (column 7, lines 17-22; note that after the selection has been made the print data gets transmitted to the appropriate optimum printing device), an inverse data conversion section for converting the intermediate print data received by the intermediate print data receiving section into the specialized print data (column 7, lines 40-47; note that after the selection has been done based on the print data, the optimum printer PRN3 gets selected as it is considered as a second output device), and a printing section for printing based on at least one of the specialized print data received by the specialized print data receiving section and the specialized print data produced by the inverse data conversion section (column 7, lines 44-47; note that printer PRN3 starts printing); and

the data conversion section (column 8, lines 44-47), the network printer selection section (column 8, lines 30-38), and the intermediate print data transfer section operate based on predetermined printing conditions (column 8, lines 40-44).

Owe et al. disclose all of the subject matter as described as above except for specifically teaching an intermediate print data receiving section for receiving the intermediate print data, a data conversion section for converting the specialized print data received by the specialized print data receiving section into intermediate print data, a network printer selection section for selecting a destination network printer from among the plurality of network printers.

However, Aoki discloses an intermediate print data receiving section for receiving the intermediate print data (column 13, line 65-67; note that the received image data gets converted to printing data), a data conversion section for converting the specialized print data received by the specialized print data receiving section into intermediate print data (column 13, lines 65-67; note that the received image data gets converted to printing data).

Owa et al. and Aoki are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skilled in the art to have an intermediate print data receiving section for receiving the intermediate print data, a data conversion section for converting the specialized print data received by the specialized print data receiving section into intermediate print data. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to efficiently acquire a desired output and utilize different output devices (column 7, lines 12-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Owa et al. with Aoki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 3.

(4) regarding claim 4:

Owa et al. further disclose, the printer selection system according to claim 3, wherein:

the specialized print data contains the printing conditions (s3, figure 6; column 5, lines 39-44);

if the printing conditions contained in the specialized print data received by the specialized print data receiving section indicate that another one of the network printers should be used for printing (column 5, lines 45-54), the data conversion section (column 8, lines 44-47), the network printer selection section (column 8, lines 30-38), and the intermediate print data transfer section operate based on the received printing conditions (column 8, lines 40-44); and

if the printing conditions contained in the specialized print data received by the specialized print data receiving section indicate that the local network printer should be used for printing (column 6, lines 50-65), the printing section does printing based on the received specialized print data (column 6, lines 37-49).

(5) regarding claim 5:

Owa et al. further disclose, the printer selection system according to claim 4, wherein:

if the printing conditions contained in the specialized print data received by the specialized print data receiving section indicate that another one of the network printers should be used for printing (column 6, line 66-column 7, line 11), the network printer

selection section selects the network printer indicated by the printing conditions from among the plurality of network printers (column 7, lines 12-22).

(6) regarding claim 6:

Owa et al. disclose most of the subject matter as described as above except for specifically teaching, the printer selection system maintains selection conditions for the network printer; and the network printer selection section selects a destination network printer from among the plurality of network printers based on the selection conditions.

However, Aoki discloses the printer selection system maintains selection conditions for the network printer (column 13, lines 47-56); and the network printer selection section selects a destination network printer from among the plurality of network printers based on the selection conditions (column 13, lines 57-64).

Owa et al. and Aoki are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skilled in the art to have the printer selection system maintains selection conditions for the network printer; and the network printer selection section selects a destination network printer from among the plurality of network printers based on the selection conditions. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to efficiently acquire a desired output and utilize different output devices (column 7, lines 12-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Owa et al. with Aoki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 6.

(7) regarding claim 7:

Owa et al. further disclose, the printer selection system according to claim 5,

wherein: the intermediate print data contains the printing conditions (s3, figure 6;

column 5, lines 39-44); and if the printing conditions contained in the intermediate print

data received by the intermediate print data receiving section indicate that the local

network printer should be used for printing (column 6, lines 50-65).

Owa et al. disclose most of the subject matter as described as above except for

specifically teaching the inverse data conversion section and the printing section

operate based on the received intermediate print data.

However, Aoki discloses the inverse data conversion section and the printing

section operate based on the received intermediate print data (column 13, line 65-67;

note that the received image data gets converted to printing data).

Owa et al. and Aoki are combinable because they are from the same field of

endeavor. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of

ordinary skilled in the art to the inverse data conversion section and the printing section

operate based on the received intermediate print data. The suggestion/motivation for

doing so would have been to efficiently acquire a desired output and utilize different

output devices (column 7, lines 12-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to

combine Owa et al. with Aoki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 7.

(8) regarding claim 8:

Owa et al. disclose the printer selection system according to claim 3, wherein:

when transferring print data to the other network printer (column 6, line 66-column 6),

the specialized print data is transferred without conversion by the data conversion

section if the destination network printer is of the same type as the local network printer

(column 7, lines 6-11).

(9) regarding claim 10:

Owa et al. disclose an output device which communicably connects with a

plurality of output devices (1, 5, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, figure 1), comprising:

a specialized output data receiving section for receiving specialized output data

in an output format which can be output by devices of the same type as the output

device (column 7, lines 12-17; note that print data gets transmitted to the selected

optimum printer), an output section for producing output based on the specialized output

data received by the specialized output data receiving section (column 7, lines 17-22;

note that based on the print data the optimum printer proceeds printing), an output

device selection section for selecting a destination output device from among the

plurality of output devices (column 7, lines 26-39; note that the selection section selects

an appropriate printer based upon the print data), and an intermediate output data

transfer section for transferring intermediate output data produced by the data

conversion section to the output device selected by the output device selection section

(column 7, lines 17-22; note that after the selection has been made the print data gets

transmitted to the appropriate optimum printing device).

Owa et al. disclose all of the subject matter as described as above except for specifically teaching a data conversion section for converting the specialized output data received by the specialized output data receiving section into intermediate output data.

However, Aoki, discloses a data conversion section for converting the specialized output data received by the specialized output data receiving section into intermediate output data (column 3, lines 20-32).

Owa et al. and Aoki are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skilled in the art to have a data conversion section for converting the specialized output data received by the specialized output data receiving section into intermediate output data. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to efficiently acquire a desired output and utilize different output devices (column 7, lines 12-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Owa et al. with Aoki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 10.

(9) regarding claim 11:

An output device which communicably connects with a plurality of output devices (1, 5, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, figure 1), comprising:

an inverse data conversion section for converting the intermediate output data received by the intermediate output data receiving section into specialized output data in an output format which can be output by devices of the same type as this output

device (column 7, lines 40-47; note that after the selection has been done based on the print data, the optimum printer PRN3 gets selected as it is considered as a second output device), and an output section for producing output based on the specialized output data produced by the inverse data conversion section (column 7, lines 44-47; note that printer PRN3 starts printing).

Owe et al. disclose all of the subject matter as described as above except for specifically teaching an intermediate output data receiving section for receiving the intermediate output data.

However, Aoki discloses an intermediate output data receiving section for receiving the intermediate output data (column 13, line 65-67; note that the received image data gets converted to printing data).

Owa et al. and Aoki are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skilled in the art to have an intermediate output data receiving section for receiving the intermediate output data. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to efficiently acquire a desired output and utilize different output devices (column 7, lines 12-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Owa et al. with Aoki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 11.

(10) regarding claim 12:

Owa et al. further discloses a computer having a program for an output device which communicably connects with a plurality of output devices (1, 5, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d,

figure 1), wherein the program makes the computer execute processes to be

implemented as:

a specialized output data receiving section for receiving specialized output data

in an output format which can be output by devices of the same type as the computer

(column 7, lines 12-17; note that print data gets transmitted to the selected optimum

printer), an output device selection section for selecting a destination output device from

among the plurality of output devices (column 7, lines 17-22; note that based on the

print data the optimum printer proceeds printing), and an intermediate output data

transfer section for transferring intermediate output data produced by the data

conversion section to the output device selected by the output device selection section

(column 7, lines 17-22; note that after the selection has been made the print data gets

transmitted to the appropriate optimum printing device).

Owa et al. discloses all of the subject matter as described as above except for

specifically teaching a data conversion section for converting the specialized output

data received by the specialized output data receiving section into intermediate output

data (column 13, line 65-67; note that the received image data gets converted to

printing data).

Owa et al. and Aoki are combinable because they are from the same field of

endeavor. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of

ordinary skilled in the art to have a data conversion section for converting the

specialized output data received by the specialized output data receiving section into

intermediate output data. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to

efficiently acquire a desired output and utilize different output devices (column 7, lines 12-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Owa et al. with Aoki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 12.

(12) regarding claim 13:

Owa et al. further discloses a computer having a program for an output device which communicably connects with a plurality of output devices (1, 5, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, figure 1), wherein the program makes the computer execute processes to be implemented as:

Owa et al. disclose all of the subject matter as described as above except for specifically teaching an intermediate output data receiving section for receiving intermediate output data, an inverse data conversion section for converting the intermediate output data received by the intermediate output data receiving section into specialized output data in an output format which can be output by devices of the same type as the computer.

However, Aoki discloses an intermediate output data receiving section for receiving intermediate output data (column 13, lines 65-67; note that the received image data gets converted to printing data), an inverse data conversion section for converting the intermediate output data received by the intermediate output data receiving section (column 13, lines 65-67; note that the received image data gets converted to printing data) into specialized output data in an output format which can be output by devices of

the same type as the computer (column 14, lines 2-3; note that the converted data gets

printed by the printer device).

Owa et al. and Aoki are combinable because they are from the same field of

endeavor. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of

ordinary skilled in the art to have an inverse data conversion section for converting the

intermediate output data received by the intermediate output data receiving section into

specialized output data in an output format which can be output by devices of the same

type as the second output device. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have

been to efficiently acquire a desired output and utilize different output devices (column

7, lines 12-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Owa et al. with Aoki

to obtain the invention as specified in claim 13.

6.   Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aoki (US

Patent Number 6,631,008 B2) and in view of Owa et al. (US Patent Number 6,348,971

B2).

(9) regarding claim 9:

Aoki, a printer selection system which communicably connects a plurality of

network printers with a print request terminal (column 1, lines 61-65) and selects one of

the plurality of network printers in response to a print request from the print request

terminal (column 1, line 65-column 2, line 3), wherein:

the print request terminal comprises an intermediate print data generating section

for generating intermediate print data (column 2, lines 4-6), and an intermediate print

data sending section for sending the intermediate print data generated by the

intermediate print data generating section to one of the plurality of network printers

(column 2, lines 6-8);

an intermediate print data transfer section for transferring the intermediate print

data received by the intermediate print data receiving section to another network printer

(column 3, line 16-19), an inverse data conversion section for converting the

intermediate print data received by the intermediate print data receiving section into

specialized print data in a print format which can be printed by devices of the same type

as the one network printer (column 3, lines 20-32), and a printing section for printing

based on the specialized print data produced by the inverse data conversion section

(column 3, lines 34-39); and

the intermediate print data transfer section operates based on predetermined

printing conditions (column 2, lines 9-15).

Aoki discloses all of the subject matter as described as above except for

specifically teaching the network printer comprises an intermediate print data receiving

section for receiving intermediate print data (column 13, line 65-67; note that the

received image data gets converted to printing data).

Aoki and Owa et al. are combinable because they are from the same field of

endeavor. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of

ordinary skilled in the art to the network printer comprises an intermediate print data

receiving section for receiving intermediate print data. The suggestion/motivation for

doing so would have been to efficiently proceed with the desired printer and control the

host to drive the selected printer (column 2, lines 20-25). Therefore, it would have been

obvious to combine Owa et al. with Aoki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 9.

Conclusion

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the

examiner should be directed to Hilina Kassa whose telephone number is (571) 270-

1676.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Twyler Lamb could be reached at (571) 272- 7406.

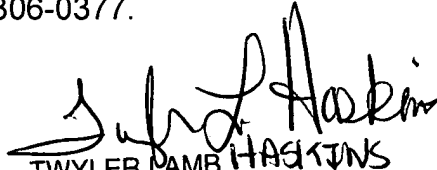Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal

Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office

whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Hilina Kassa

TWYLER LAMB HASKINS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

December 10, 2007